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article the index number of which is above 100. Metals remained low, and coals were also much cheaper than in the two preceding years.

Textiles, which fell heavily in 1890 and 1891, were on the average again lower. Cotton middling American, on the spot touched 3 9-16*d.* per lb. in March, futures being even cheaper, and was practically on a par with the lowest price in 1848, which was 3½*d.* It rose, however, to 5¼*d.* when it became known that the new crop would be much smaller. The average prices of wool were exceptionally low, and jute, very high at the beginning of the year, dropped about 50 per cent, but recovered again a small part of the decline. Oils were also lower than in 1891, and petroleum at or below 4½*d.* has never been so cheap.

The monthly fluctuations were as follows:—

1889	Dec.	. . . .	73.7	1892	June	. . . .	67.7
1890	"	. . . .	71.1		July	. . . .	67.8
1891	"	. . . .	71.4		Aug.	. . . .	67.4
1892	Jan.	. . . .	70.0		Sept.	. . . .	66.8
	Feb.	. . . .	70.0		Oct.	. . . .	67.4
	Mar.	. . . .	69.1		Nov.	. . . .	68.2
	Apr.	. . . .	68.9		Dec.	. . . .	67.7
	May	. . . .	68.8				

The figure for September is the lowest touched during this century, and the index number for December is 5 per cent lower than at the end of 1891, and 8 per cent lower than in December, 1889.

The average price of bar silver was 39 13-16*d.* per oz., against 45 1-16*d.* in 1891, or about 34½ per cent under the old parity of 15½ silver to 1 gold, and the lowest price was 37½*d.* in August.

I remain, Sir,

Yours faithfully,

A. SAUBRBECK.

#### ON SOME RELATIONS OF HUMAN STATURE TO MUSCULAR STRENGTH.

The following circular of information has recently been issued by the Physical Education Department of Amherst College.

It seems to be a prevailing idea that the physical strength of men when ascertained by comparative tests and in bodies well proportioned to the height is greatest in those of shorter bodily stature. Of course the acts of leaping, walking, throwing a ball, and similar feats would be better exhibited by men of longest limbs, because of longer leverage of trunk, arm, and leg. But when the muscles of a man are made to contract upon his own weight alone, we have been apt to think that the man of short joints has a better mechanical advantage against gravity than has the longer-limbed fellow.

Such has certainly been the notion with the Physical Education Department at Pratt Gymnasium, Amherst College. But, in order properly to test this opinion by numerical and statistical facts, some special observations have just been made at our Anthropometric Laboratory. Following the arrangement and method accepted by the American Association for the Advancement of Physical Education, the six strength tests of back, legs, forearms, lungs, dip, and pull up have been used for this study. These were taken of the twenty tallest men and the twenty shortest men in the classes of '89, '90, '91, and '92, and they have been collated, arranged, and averaged for the best purposes of comparison.

The accompanying tables show the aggregates of the items selected in each class of the tall men and the short men, the averages of each item, and the difference between them both in numbers and in per cent.

We find as a result of the study that the average height of the tall men is 1809 m. m., or 71.3 inches, and that of the short men is 1665 m. m., or 65.5 inches. And as the average of a college student for the past 31 years has been 1725 m. m., or 67.9 inches, it shows a wider range between the average and the short students than the reverse.

We also find the per cent of difference between the tall and the short men, in the three points in which the tall men surpassed the short ones, was 14.50. And the three points where the short men surpassed the tall ones gave an average of 10.25 per cent. So that taking the whole six items of comparison together we find 4.25 per cent in favor of the tallest men.

As far, then, as this little study is concerned it seems to show that the idea that the men of short stature exceed those of tall stature in test measurements of strength is erroneous.

The Department here has taken the ground that the stature (bodily height) is the normal or proper standard for physical work. That according to a man's height we should apportion his work, prescribe for his health, predict his development, and construct the typical man, or, as Mr. Charles Roberts puts it, "the total height being the most characteristic and important measurement of the body, the arrangement of the table of heights has been made the model for all the rest." And this monograph showing that the men above the average height give a greater range of strength than those below it, and that the

strongest men are among the tallest, give great promise to the proposition that stature is an all important factor in the study of anthropometry.

TABLE OF TEST MEASUREMENTS OF BODILY STRENGTH BETWEEN TALL AND SHORT MEN IN AMHERST COLLEGE, MARCH, 1893.

TALL MEN.

	Height.	Back.	Legs.	Forearms.	Lungs.	Dip.	Pull Up.	
Aggregates. {	Class of '89	1800	3262	3867	897	328	152	195
	Class of '90	1816	3343	4285	935	348	168	203
	Class of '91	1814	3347	3999	834	326	115	167
	Class of '92	1805	3262	4249	906	312	156	197
Average.....	1809	165	205	45	1.64	7.4	9.5	

SHORT MEN.

	Height.	Back.	Legs.	Forearms.	Lungs.	Dip.	Pull Up.	
Aggregates. {	Class of '89	1680	3017	3507	794	316	174	231
	Class of '90	1652	3030	3395	781	339	182	199
	Class of '91	1651	3080	3443	737	364	177	250
	Class of '92	1677	3190	3606	744	314	151	192
Average.....	<b>1665</b>	<b>154</b>	<b>174</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>1.66</b>	<b>8.5</b>	<b>10.9</b>	
Difference in measure.....	<b>144</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0.02</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>1.4</b>	
Difference in per cent....		<b>7.25</b>	<b>17.75</b>	<b>18.50</b>	<b>1.25</b>	<b>14.75</b>	<b>14.75</b>	

Height in millimeters ; Back, Legs, Forearms, and Lungs in kilos ; and Pull and Dip in units.

## STATE LEGISLATION OF 1892 RELATING TO STATISTICAL INQUIRIES.

The citations indicate the State, Number of chapter, and Date of approval.

The following entries relating to statistics are found in the very valuable *State Library Bulletin* of New York (Legislative No. 3, January, 1893), devoted to summarizing and indexing the state legislation of 1892.

STATE CENSUS. Enumeration of inhabitants. Appointment of enumerators and duties of secretary of state. N. Y., 5, 20 Ja.